

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

May 22, 2019

The Honorable John Sanders  
Acting Commissioner  
U.S. Customs and Borders Protection  
1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20229

Dear Acting Commissioner Sanders,

We are writing to support the City of Del Rio's request that U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reconsider its decision to temporarily close the Amistad Dam Port of Entry for thirty days. We also request that CBP prioritize the placement of a sufficient number of personnel to ensure the safe and efficient flow of traffic through the port. Given the level of importance of this port to the local community, it is paramount that CBP restore the standard hours and days of operation at the Amistad Port of Entry to the maximum extent practicable.

In 2018, Texas alone was responsible for 35 percent of all goods traded with Mexico. In total, Texas exported in excess of \$100 billion in goods to our southern neighbor. Maintaining the standard hours of operation at the Amistad Dam Port of Entry will allow the flow of legitimate trade and travel to continue flowing efficiently and effectively, ensuring the continued vitality of the local, state and national economies.

We also urge you to consider the secondary impacts of the closure of the Amistad Dam Port of Entry, more specifically the impact this closure is having on the Del Rio-Acuna Port of Entry. The Del Rio-Acuna Port of Entry has been facing increased wait times at the point of crossing. The Amistad Port of Entry closure will only exacerbate the delays at the Del Rio-Acuna Port of Entry and will place an unnecessary strain on personnel and facilities at the port. Most importantly, we are concerned that the closure could lead to strenuous working conditions for personnel entrusted with orchestrating safe and efficient traffic between the United States and Mexico.

We appreciate your staff's willingness to engage with ours, and your swift and thoughtful consideration of our request. Should you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any member of my staff.

Sincerely,



JOHN CORNYN  
United States Senator



WILL HURD  
Member of Congress